

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 OMB-01 CPR-03 HA-05 IO-13 /090 W
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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8940
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 5261

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S REMARKS ON U.S.-ECUADOREAN
RELATIONS AND ON ELECTIONS

1. AMBASSADOR GONZALEZ MADE INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER ON AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY, JULY 28 TO DISCUSS PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIAL SCHEDULE FOR MONDAY, JULY 31. THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR HIS RECEIVING HIM ONLY ONE DAY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN ECUADOR AND FOR THE VERY RAPID SCHEDULING OF PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO THE PRESIDENT ONLY THREE DAYS LATER (WHICH IS UNPRECEDENTED IN THIS COUNTRY). THE FOREIGN MINISTER REPLIED THAT THIS WAS INDICATIVE OF THE GOOD RELATIONS THAT ECUADOR AND U.S. ENJOY, AND EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE THAT DURING THE AMBASSADOR'S TIME IN ECUADOR THAT THESE RELATIONS WOULD BECOME EVEN CLOSER AND MORE BENEFICIAL TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

2. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE SATISFACTION FELT IN HIGH GOVERNMENT CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON OVER THE MANNER IN WHICH THE RECENT ELECTION WAS CARRIED OUT AND HOW THEY CONSIDERED THE PROCESS TO BE AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL COUNTRIES OF THIS HEMISPHERE.
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THE FOREIGN MINISTER SPOKE WITH PRIDE OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATURE OF ECUADOREAN SOCIETY, EVEN UNDER DE FACTO GOVERNMENTS, AND OF ITS GREAT RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. HE CHARACTERIZED THE ELECTION PROCESS OF ECUADOR AS BEING SUI GENERIS, AND THEREFORE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. THE FOREIGN MINISTER EMPHASIZED STRONGLY THE COMMITMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT

TO CARRY OUT THE PROCESS HONESTLY AND EFFICIENTLY,
AS PLEDGED.
GONZALEZ

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NNN

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